

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-07 MC-02 SAJ-01 OMB-01

CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /070 W
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P R 261607Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7514

INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

JCS WASHDC PRIORITY

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY PRIORITY

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GERMANY PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL ANTWERP

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 07337

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, US, UK, BE

SUBJECT: JOINT US-UK STORAGE SITES IN BELGIUM

REF: BRUSSELS 6913 (DTG 141009 JULY 76)

SUMMARY: BELGIAN FOREIGN AND DEFENSE MINISTRY OFFICIALS
HAVE MET ON STORAGE SITE PROPOSAL AND REQUEST FURTHER
INFORMATION ON OVERALL U.S. MILITARY STORAGE NEEDS IN
BELGIUM BEFORE MAKING DECISION. END SUMMARY.

1. AT A MEETING OF BELGIAN FOREIGN AND DEFENSE MINISTRY
OFFICIALS LAST WEEK, MOD REPS INFORMED THE FOREIGN MINISTRY
(AMB. DENORME) THAT THEY WOULD HAVE TO GIVE UP TWO OF
THEIR OWN DEPOTS IN THE ANTWERP AREA (FORTS MORTSEL AND
HEMEXEM) FOR UNSPECIFIED REASONS IN THE NEAR FUTURE.
THEY ASKED THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TO GIVE THEM PRIORITY
CONSIDERATION FOR USE OF SPACE TO BE GIVEN UP BY THE
BRITISH TO COMPENSATE FOR THE DEPOTS THEY WILL LOSE.

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2. AT THE SAME MEETING, THE MOD REPS REPORTED THAT THEY HAD SHOWN U.S. MILITARY REPS POSSIBLE STORAGE SITES RELATED TO LOC (E.G., HOOGBUUL AND CHIEVRES) AND OTHERS (E.G., SAIT HUBERT, VOVIGNY, WEELDE, ETC.). THEY DO NOT AT THIS POINT KNOW HOW THE U.S. MILITARY INTEREST EXPRESSED IN THESE SITES RELATES TO THE U.S. MILITARY INTEREST IN BRITISH SITES IN THE ANTWERP AREA. THE MOD REPS ASKED THE FOREIGN MINISTRY TO OBTAIN A DETAILED OVERVIEW OF ALL CURRENT INTEREST BY THE U.S. MILITARY IN STORAGE SITES IN BELGIUM, INCLUDING BOTH CURRENT BRITISH SITES AND OTHERS WHICH HAVE BEEN SUBJECT OF BILATERAL U.S.-BELGIAN MILITARY TO MILITARY DISCUSSIONS.

3. AMBASSADOR DENORME ASKED US JULY 26 TO PROVIDE HIM ASAP WITH THE INFORMATION NECESSARY TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS NOTED IN PARA 2 ABOVE. REQUEST ADDRESSEES FURNISH US WITH INFORMATION REQUESTED FOR US TO PASS TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.

4. IN MAKING ABOVE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION TO US, AMB. DENORME SAID THAT BRITISH JOINT STORAGE SITE PROPOSAL WAS STILL UNDER STUDY AND THAT NO DECISIONS HAD BEEN REACHED. BELGIANS WILL NOT MAKE DECISION ON BRITISH PROPOSAL UNTIL THEY CAN FOCUS ON TOTAL U.S. MILITARY STORAGE SITE INTERESTS IN BELGIUM INCLUDING LOC, MRLOGEUR, BRITISH FORCES ANTWERP COMPLEX AND BELGIAN MOD STORAGE NEEDS. FIRESTONE

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